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DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

4 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Plans and Development Staff

*Just  
9 Oct 61*

SUBJECT: Analysis of a "Study To Determine Functional Requirements For a Minicard Camera and System to Record Satellite Photography"

1. The conclusions reached in the subject report point with favor toward the costly development of a lens and camera intended for the automatic reduction of all incoming photography to Minicard format for storage, reuse, etc.

2. This evaluation, although the writer takes exception with the primary report, addresses itself rather to the unresolved question of would such a reduction procedure prove of value within NPIC.

3. Assumptions

- A. Minicard is a method of data storage and handling.
- B. The purpose of any data storage and handling system is to effect an economy in space, money or time.
- C. Minicard is more expensive to own and maintain than a conventional film storage vault.
- D. A photo interpreter faced with a need to recall and examine an image will insist on the best possible image quality. This quality can only be had at original scale, preferably from 1st or 2nd generation materials.
- E. If, in response to the above noted properly uncompromising demand of the interpreter, we must maintain a file of original scale film of all inputs, then Minicard photo files become an inferior and more complex duplication of the original file.

4. Conclusions

- A. The use of Minicard for the storage of reduced operational continuous tone inputs will not effect a savings in time; will not effect a savings in money; will not effect a savings in space - such a procedure would in reality require an expensive duplication of NPIC's time, space and money for the storage of reconnaissance material.

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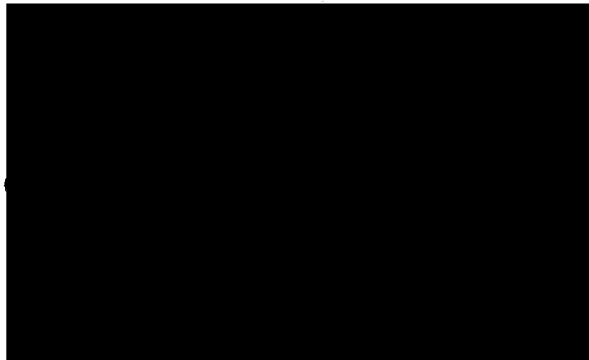
5. Recommendation

That the subject report be accepted as written and that no further consideration be given to the use of Minicard for storage of operationally collected images unless such a course can be clearly demonstrated to hold profit for NPIC.

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